

For object detection, particularly in fluidic microsystems, optical imaging of at least one resting or moving object (10) on a structured mask (20) with at least one segment from a flat section (80), in which the object (10) is located at least partially or temporarily and which has a characteristic dimension smaller than the dimension of the object (10) or its movement path, to a detector unit, detection of the quantity of light transmitted by the structured mask (20), and generation of a detector signal which has a predetermined relationship with the quantity of light, and evaluation of the detector signal in regard to the presence of the object (10), its position, its shape and/or the temporal change of the position are performed.